



The Secretary of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

June 6, 2003

The Honorable Tom Daschle
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Daschle:

Thank you for your May 27, 2003, letter expressing concern about continued high natural gas prices and their impact on consumers and industries that rely on natural gas.

The Administration shares your concern -- and it is for this reason that I called for a Natural Gas Summit on June 26, 2003, which your letter referenced. In addition to including members of our National Petroleum Council, the Summit will also bring together State and Federal regulators; industrial, residential, and commercial gas consumers; electric utilities and independent generators; along with experts in energy efficiency and conservation to discuss and develop recommendations relating to the future of the natural gas markets.

Based on the Department's analysis, we concur with the conclusion advanced in your letter that over the next 12 to 18 months there are only limited opportunities to increase supply; and that, therefore, the emphasis must be on conservation, energy efficiency, and fuel switching. That is why the speakers and attendees at the Summit will be substantially consumer focused. I would note, however, that the feedback we have been getting from the natural gas industry has been strongly supportive of this conservation message as they are concerned about the long-term effect on the market of these high short-term prices.

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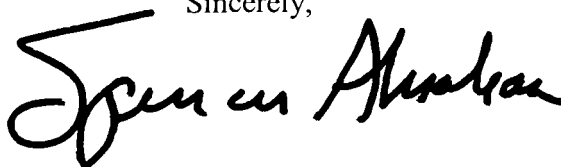


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I appreciate your interest in the Natural Gas Summit and look forward to working with you to address these important issues.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact me or Ms. Kelly S. Lugar, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Congressional and Intergovernmental Affairs, at (202) 586-5450.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Spencer Abraham". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial "S".

Spencer Abraham



The Secretary of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

June 6, 2003

The Honorable Joe Lieberman
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Lieberman:

Thank you for your May 27, 2003, letter expressing concern about continued high natural gas prices and their impact on consumers and industries that rely on natural gas.

The Administration shares your concern -- and it is for this reason that I called for a Natural Gas Summit on June 26, 2003, which your letter referenced. In addition to including members of our National Petroleum Council, the Summit will also bring together State and Federal regulators; industrial, residential, and commercial gas consumers; electric utilities and independent generators; along with experts in energy efficiency and conservation to discuss and develop recommendations relating to the future of the natural gas markets.

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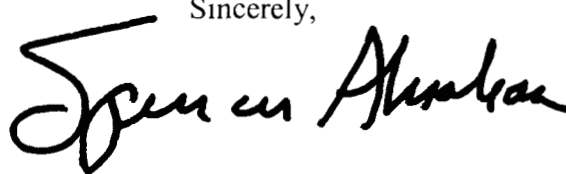


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Spencer Abraham



The Secretary of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

June 6, 2003

The Honorable Tim Johnson
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Johnson:

Thank you for your May 27, 2003, letter expressing concern about continued high natural gas prices and their impact on consumers and industries that rely on natural gas.

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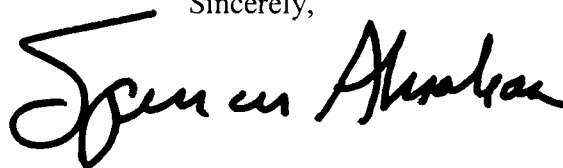


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The Secretary of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

June 6, 2003

The Honorable Thomas Carper
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Carper:

Thank you for your May 27, 2003, letter expressing concern about continued high natural gas prices and their impact on consumers and industries that rely on natural gas.

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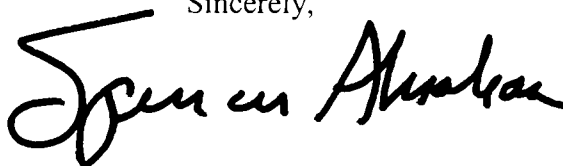


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The Secretary of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

June 6, 2003

The Honorable Jay Rockefeller
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Rockefeller:

Thank you for your May 27, 2003, letter expressing concern about continued high natural gas prices and their impact on consumers and industries that rely on natural gas.

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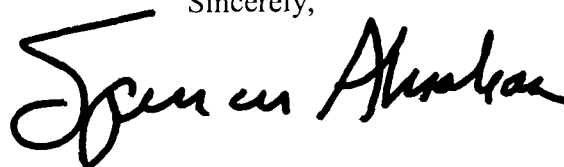


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The Secretary of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

June 6, 2003

The Honorable Frank Lautenberg
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Lautenberg:

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The Secretary of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

June 6, 2003

The Honorable Russell Feingold
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Feingold:

Thank you for your May 27, 2003, letter expressing concern about continued high natural gas prices and their impact on consumers and industries that rely on natural gas.

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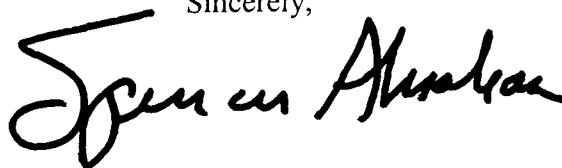


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Spencer Abraham



The Secretary of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

June 6, 2003

The Honorable Ron Wyden
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Wyden:

Thank you for your May 27, 2003, letter expressing concern about continued high natural gas prices and their impact on consumers and industries that rely on natural gas.

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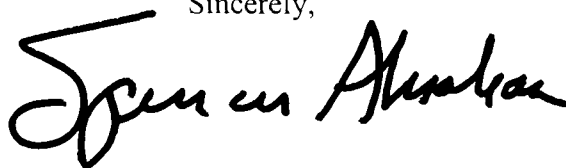


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Spencer Abraham



The Secretary of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

June 6, 2003

The Honorable Maria Cantwell
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Cantwell:

Thank you for your May 27, 2003, letter expressing concern about continued high natural gas prices and their impact on consumers and industries that rely on natural gas.

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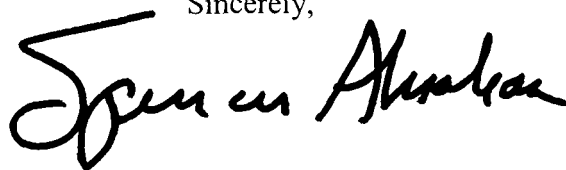


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Spencer Abraham



The Secretary of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

June 6, 2003

The Honorable Jeff Bingaman
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Bingaman:

Thank you for your May 27, 2003, letter expressing concern about continued high natural gas prices and their impact on consumers and industries that rely on natural gas.

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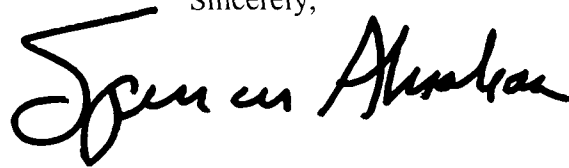


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The Secretary of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

June 6, 2003

The Honorable Mary Landrieu
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Landrieu:

Thank you for your May 27, 2003, letter expressing concern about continued high natural gas prices and their impact on consumers and industries that rely on natural gas.

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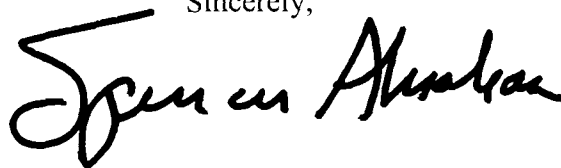


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The Secretary of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

June 6, 2003

The Honorable John Corzine
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Corzine:

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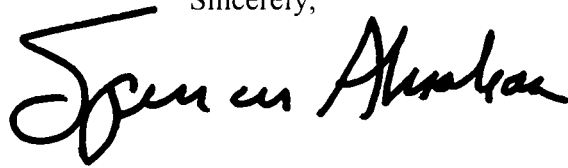


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The Secretary of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

June 6, 2003

The Honorable Jack Reed
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Reed:

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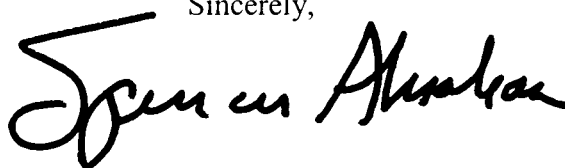


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June 6, 2003

The Honorable Charles Schumer
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Schumer:

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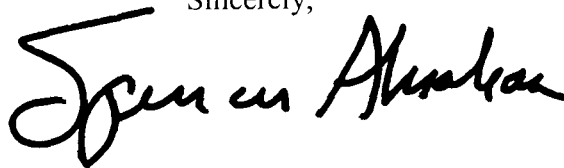


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Sincerely,

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Spencer Abraham



The Secretary of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

June 6, 2003

The Honorable Evan Bayh
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Bayh:

Thank you for your May 27, 2003, letter expressing concern about continued high natural gas prices and their impact on consumers and industries that rely on natural gas.

The Administration shares your concern -- and it is for this reason that I called for a Natural Gas Summit on June 26, 2003, which your letter referenced. In addition to including members of our National Petroleum Council, the Summit will also bring together State and Federal regulators; industrial, residential, and commercial gas consumers; electric utilities and independent generators; along with experts in energy efficiency and conservation to discuss and develop recommendations relating to the future of the natural gas markets.

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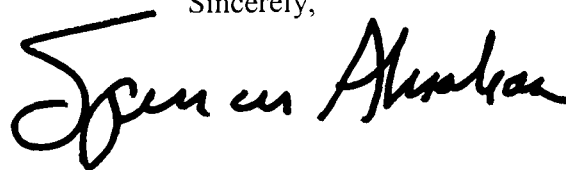


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Spencer Abraham



The Secretary of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

June 6, 2003

The Honorable Dianne Feinstein
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Feinstein:

Thank you for your May 27, 2003, letter expressing concern about continued high natural gas prices and their impact on consumers and industries that rely on natural gas.

The Administration shares your concern -- and it is for this reason that I called for a Natural Gas Summit on June 26, 2003, which your letter referenced. In addition to including members of our National Petroleum Council, the Summit will also bring together State and Federal regulators; industrial, residential, and commercial gas consumers; electric utilities and independent generators; along with experts in energy efficiency and conservation to discuss and develop recommendations relating to the future of the natural gas markets.

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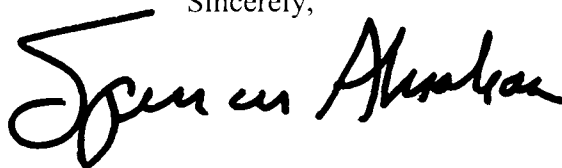


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Spencer Abraham



The Secretary of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

June 6, 2003

The Honorable Hillary Rodham Clinton
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Clinton:

Thank you for your May 27, 2003, letter expressing concern about continued high natural gas prices and their impact on consumers and industries that rely on natural gas.

The Administration shares your concern -- and it is for this reason that I called for a Natural Gas Summit on June 26, 2003, which your letter referenced. In addition to including members of our National Petroleum Council, the Summit will also bring together State and Federal regulators; industrial, residential, and commercial gas consumers; electric utilities and independent generators; along with experts in energy efficiency and conservation to discuss and develop recommendations relating to the future of the natural gas markets.

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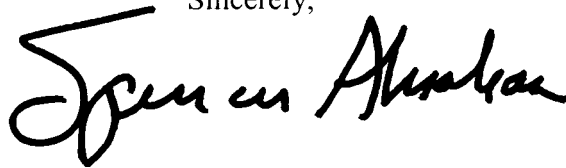


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The Secretary of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

June 6, 2003

The Honorable Patrick Leahy
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Leahy:

Thank you for your May 27, 2003, letter expressing concern about continued high natural gas prices and their impact on consumers and industries that rely on natural gas.

The Administration shares your concern -- and it is for this reason that I called for a Natural Gas Summit on June 26, 2003, which your letter referenced. In addition to including members of our National Petroleum Council, the Summit will also bring together State and Federal regulators; industrial, residential, and commercial gas consumers; electric utilities and independent generators; along with experts in energy efficiency and conservation to discuss and develop recommendations relating to the future of the natural gas markets.

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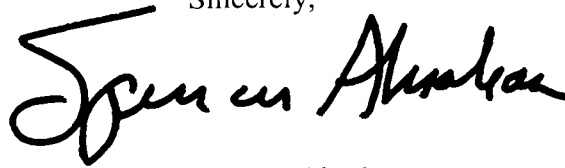


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Spencer Abraham



The Secretary of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

June 6, 2003

The Honorable Edward Kennedy
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Kennedy:

Thank you for your May 27, 2003, letter expressing concern about continued high natural gas prices and their impact on consumers and industries that rely on natural gas.

The Administration shares your concern -- and it is for this reason that I called for a Natural Gas Summit on June 26, 2003, which your letter referenced. In addition to including members of our National Petroleum Council, the Summit will also bring together State and Federal regulators; industrial, residential, and commercial gas consumers; electric utilities and independent generators; along with experts in energy efficiency and conservation to discuss and develop recommendations relating to the future of the natural gas markets.

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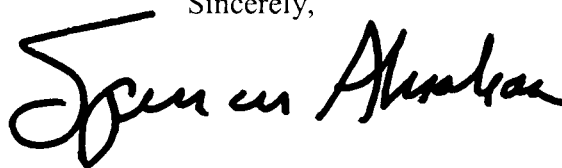


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Spencer Abraham



The Secretary of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

June 6, 2003

The Honorable John F. Kerry
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Kerry:

Thank you for your May 27, 2003, letter expressing concern about continued high natural gas prices and their impact on consumers and industries that rely on natural gas.

The Administration shares your concern -- and it is for this reason that I called for a Natural Gas Summit on June 26, 2003, which your letter referenced. In addition to including members of our National Petroleum Council, the Summit will also bring together State and Federal regulators; industrial, residential, and commercial gas consumers; electric utilities and independent generators; along with experts in energy efficiency and conservation to discuss and develop recommendations relating to the future of the natural gas markets.

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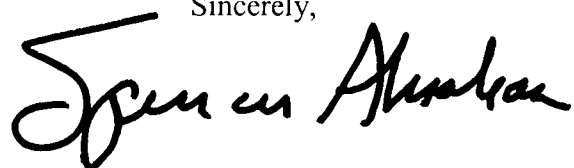


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Spencer Abraham



The Secretary of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

June 6, 2003

The Honorable Carl Levin
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Levin:

Thank you for your May 27, 2003, letter expressing concern about continued high natural gas prices and their impact on consumers and industries that rely on natural gas.

The Administration shares your concern -- and it is for this reason that I called for a Natural Gas Summit on June 26, 2003, which your letter referenced. In addition to including members of our National Petroleum Council, the Summit will also bring together State and Federal regulators; industrial, residential, and commercial gas consumers; electric utilities and independent generators; along with experts in energy efficiency and conservation to discuss and develop recommendations relating to the future of the natural gas markets.

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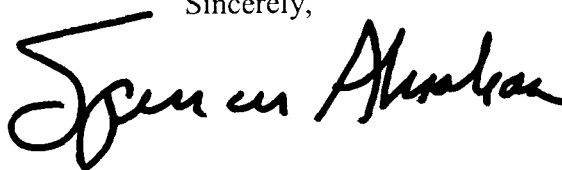


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Spencer Abraham



The Secretary of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

June 6, 2003

The Honorable Paul Sarbanes
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Sarbanes:

Thank you for your May 27, 2003, letter expressing concern about continued high natural gas prices and their impact on consumers and industries that rely on natural gas.

The Administration shares your concern -- and it is for this reason that I called for a Natural Gas Summit on June 26, 2003, which your letter referenced. In addition to including members of our National Petroleum Council, the Summit will also bring together State and Federal regulators; industrial, residential, and commercial gas consumers; electric utilities and independent generators; along with experts in energy efficiency and conservation to discuss and develop recommendations relating to the future of the natural gas markets.

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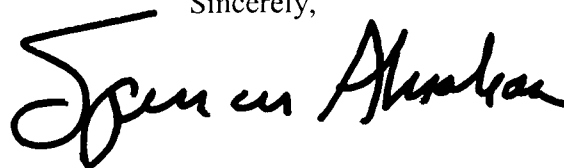


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Spencer Abraham



The Secretary of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

June 6, 2003

The Honorable Daniel Akaka
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Akaka:

Thank you for your May 27, 2003, letter expressing concern about continued high natural gas prices and their impact on consumers and industries that rely on natural gas.

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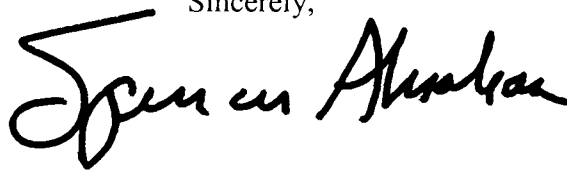


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The Secretary of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

June 6, 2003

The Honorable Barbara Mikulski
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Mikulski:

Thank you for your May 27, 2003, letter expressing concern about continued high natural gas prices and their impact on consumers and industries that rely on natural gas.

The Administration shares your concern -- and it is for this reason that I called for a Natural Gas Summit on June 26, 2003, which your letter referenced. In addition to including members of our National Petroleum Council, the Summit will also bring together State and Federal regulators; industrial, residential, and commercial gas consumers; electric utilities and independent generators; along with experts in energy efficiency and conservation to discuss and develop recommendations relating to the future of the natural gas markets.

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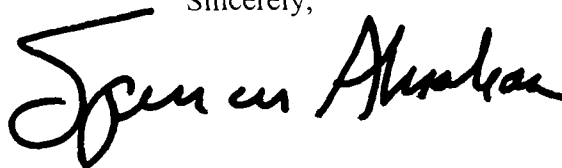


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Spencer Abraham



The Secretary of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

June 6, 2003

The Honorable Patty Murray
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Murray:

Thank you for your May 27, 2003, letter expressing concern about continued high natural gas prices and their impact on consumers and industries that rely on natural gas.

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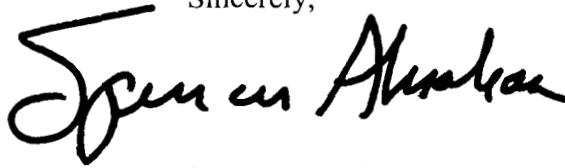


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Spencer Abraham



The Secretary of Energy

Washington, DC 20585

June 6, 2003

The Honorable Richard Durbin
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Durbin:

Thank you for your May 27, 2003, letter expressing concern about continued high natural gas prices and their impact on consumers and industries that rely on natural gas.

The Administration shares your concern -- and it is for this reason that I called for a Natural Gas Summit on June 26, 2003, which your letter referenced. In addition to including members of our National Petroleum Council, the Summit will also bring together State and Federal regulators; industrial, residential, and commercial gas consumers; electric utilities and independent generators; along with experts in energy efficiency and conservation to discuss and develop recommendations relating to the future of the natural gas markets.

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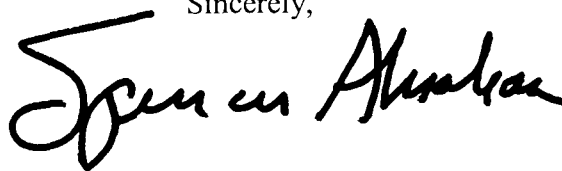


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The Secretary of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

June 6, 2003

The Honorable Daniel Inouye
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Inouye:

Thank you for your May 27, 2003, letter expressing concern about continued high natural gas prices and their impact on consumers and industries that rely on natural gas.

The Administration shares your concern -- and it is for this reason that I called for a Natural Gas Summit on June 26, 2003, which your letter referenced. In addition to including members of our National Petroleum Council, the Summit will also bring together State and Federal regulators; industrial, residential, and commercial gas consumers; electric utilities and independent generators; along with experts in energy efficiency and conservation to discuss and develop recommendations relating to the future of the natural gas markets.

Based on the Department's analysis, we concur with the conclusion advanced in your letter that over the next 12 to 18 months there are only limited opportunities to increase supply; and that, therefore, the emphasis must be on conservation, energy efficiency, and fuel switching. That is why the speakers and attendees at the Summit will be substantially consumer focused. I would note, however, that the feedback we have been getting from the natural gas industry has been strongly supportive of this conservation message as they are concerned about the long-term effect on the market of these high short-term prices.

In addition to sharing the same opinion regarding the role of conservation, I am pleased that we also are in agreement concerning the need to increase natural gas supplies. Last year, I commissioned a National Petroleum Council study focused on longer-term issues that will more directly address supply. This study, to be released in the fall, will include a comprehensive evaluation of future natural gas supply and demand issues. We will, of course, share the results of that study upon its completion.

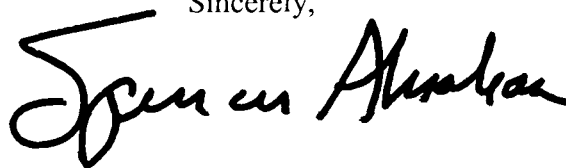


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I appreciate your interest in the Natural Gas Summit and look forward to working with you to address these important issues.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact me or Ms. Kelly S. Lugar, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Congressional and Intergovernmental Affairs, at (202) 586-5450.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Spencer Abraham". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial "S".

Spencer Abraham



The Secretary of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

June 6, 2003

The Honorable Barbara Boxer
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Boxer:

Thank you for your May 27, 2003, letter expressing concern about continued high natural gas prices and their impact on consumers and industries that rely on natural gas.

The Administration shares your concern -- and it is for this reason that I called for a Natural Gas Summit on June 26, 2003, which your letter referenced. In addition to including members of our National Petroleum Council, the Summit will also bring together State and Federal regulators; industrial, residential, and commercial gas consumers; electric utilities and independent generators; along with experts in energy efficiency and conservation to discuss and develop recommendations relating to the future of the natural gas markets.

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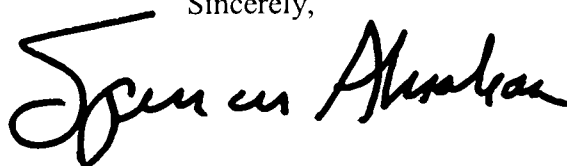


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Spencer Abraham



The Secretary of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

June 6, 2003

The Honorable Debbie Stabenow
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Stebenow:

Thank you for your May 27, 2003, letter expressing concern about continued high natural gas prices and their impact on consumers and industries that rely on natural gas.

The Administration shares your concern -- and it is for this reason that I called for a Natural Gas Summit on June 26, 2003, which your letter referenced. In addition to including members of our National Petroleum Council, the Summit will also bring together State and Federal regulators; industrial, residential, and commercial gas consumers; electric utilities and independent generators; along with experts in energy efficiency and conservation to discuss and develop recommendations relating to the future of the natural gas markets.

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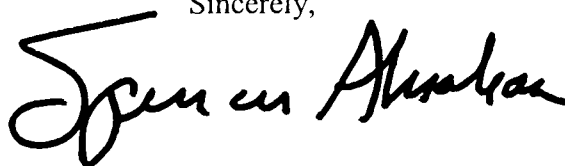


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Spencer Abraham



The Secretary of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

June 6, 2003

The Honorable Harry Reid
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Reid:

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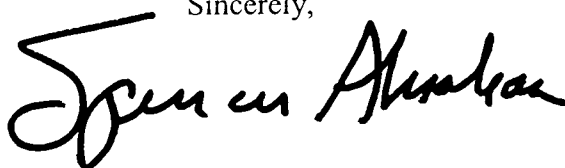


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Spencer Abraham